



King's College  
*The British School of Alicante*

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**Press Release**

**6<sup>th</sup> June 2018, Alicante**

## **King's College Alicante becomes the first school outside the UK to achieve the prestigious SEND Inclusion Award**

**The Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Inclusion Award (SENDIA) provides a framework for recognising outstanding SEND provision in schools. It helps schools establish their strengths and weaknesses in terms of SEND provision and prioritise areas for further improvement and development.**



King's College, the British School of Alicante has been presented the Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Inclusion Award (SENDIA), an internationally renowned accolade that distinguishes outstanding SEND provision in schools. This is the first time that a British school outside of the UK has received this award.

“I am delighted that our staff and pupils have achieved this wonderful accolade in recognition of the outstanding care and attention shown to all our pupils to meet their individual learning needs. I am also delighted that we are the first school outside of the UK to achieve this award, demonstrating our vision ‘to be at the forefront of British education internationally’”, said Derek Laidlaw, headteacher at King’s College Alicante.

“The lead team of Mrs Compton, Mrs Conomos, Mr Escott and Sra Rodriguez deserve enormous credit for leading this initiative so successfully, helping the school to become fully inclusive in our learning provision for all abilities and needs at all ages”, added Mr Laidlaw.

The award was presented to the school after a thorough inspection of its SEND provisions and several interviews with parents and pupils.

The lead verifier from Optimus Education commented that “The school is an effective learning environment, in all classes the pupils are focussed on their learning. Pupils are proud of their school and those interviewed all had aspirations. Because of this, pupils are not afraid to make mistakes and know they are in a supportive learning environment. Clear differentiation is evident in lessons and the school has worked effectively to ensure all staff has a clear understanding of their responsibility for all pupils to achieve well and access the curriculum”.

Parents interviewed as part of the verification process commented that the information provided by the school in terms of their children’s progress is very clear and that they feel they have a voice in school and that their opinions are valued.

Additionally, pupils who were interviewed by the verifier commented that they felt the staff genuinely cared about helping them progress in their work, that learning is fun and that the teachers really want pupils to reach their potential.

### **About King’s College schools**

King’s Group is a network of educational bodies that have provided children and young people with a rigorous and broad British education for nearly 50 years. The first King’s College school was founded in 1969, and since then the prestigious educational institution has grown to a total of 10 schools in the UK, Spain (Madrid, Alicante, Elche and Murcia), Germany, Latvia and Panama.

All King’s College schools offer a high-quality British education based on the British Curriculum, which emphasises strong academic values through active learning for pupils from the age of 18 months to 18 years old.

All teachers at King’s College are native British and have been trained in the United Kingdom. The British educational model is characterised by its rigorous and broad curriculum, its interdisciplinary focus and its emphasis on practical learning, exploration and active participation of the students.

Testament to the exceptional academic and pastoral standards that the schools embed is the Independent School Inspectorate’s (ISI) recognition of “Excellence” in every category in their latest reports.

### **For more information, please contact:**

**Shaní Gerszenzon**  
**PR & Press Officer**

**King's Group**

Avda. Pío XII, 92, 28036 Madrid (Spain)

Tel: +34 91 768 22 59

[shani.gerszenzon@kingsgroup.org](mailto:shani.gerszenzon@kingsgroup.org)

[www.kingsgroup.org](http://www.kingsgroup.org)